



# BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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**"I have not yet begun to fight!"**



## CULTURE HAS TAUGHT CRUZ RESPECT

Story and photo by JO3 Laura C. Wiggins

To honor the accomplishments of Asian/Pacific Americans and to recognize their many contributions to our nation, Congress has designated the month of May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian/Pacific Americans have contributed immensely to our Navy-Marine Corps team both in the past

and in the present, enriching our proud tradition of cultural diversity and endowing our military with energy and vision.

Sgt. Douglas K. M. Cruz, from Merizo, Guam, believes his culture has set up a foundation for him from which the Marine Corps can build upon. "I was raised to respect others, especially elders. Respect is a key thing both in families and the Corps. In order to get respect, you've got to give respect. This personal concept agrees with the rank structure of the military."

Cruz has served the Marine Corps for nearly four years and has both a Chamoru and Guamanian background. He had always wanted to join the military.

Cruz is now serving on board USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6) with HMM-166 (REIN) as an AH-1W and UH-1N flightline mechanic. "I get to fix machines and with the trade the Marine Corps has taught me, I have an even better future to pursue out in the civilian world should I chose to leave the Corps."

Cruz's culture has taught him to respect others and their traditions, and he uses those teachings in his daily routine in the Marine Corps.



*Although Sgt. Douglas Cruz normally spends his day on the flight deck, he also performs daily maintenance on AH-1W and UH-1N helicopters in the hangar bay.*

## NATIONAL NEWS

### GAS PRICES RISE AS SUMMER SEASON BEGINS

By Richard A. Oppel Jr.

After falling a good bit following a decision by the petroleum-exporting countries in March to increase oil production, gasoline prices have soared to the highest levels of the year in many parts of the nation.

Drivers now filling up are paying record prices for the Memorial Day weekend. And analysts say tight supplies, particularly in the Midwest, could push prices higher as demand increases with the beginning of the summer driving season and as parts of the country struggle to meet a June 1 deadline for using a cleaner-burning reformulated fuel as required by the federal government.

The average national price for regular unleaded is \$1.53 a gallon, the same level reached in March and almost 40 cents higher than last year, federal officials said. In New York City, drivers are paying

\$1.64 a gallon, compared with \$1.27 last year, according to AAA, the Automobile Association of America.

AAA said it expected more than 34 million Americans to travel at least 100 miles from their homes over the weekend, 3 percent more than last year.

### SLEEPING ZONES FOR HOMELESS

By New York Times

Santa Cruz is defying the national trend of moving homeless people out of public places. The City Council has voted to create "safe sleeping zones" in two industrial parks. People could sleep there in their vehicles or on the ground. The areas will have trash bins, portable toilets and a police officer dedicated to patrolling.

## BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

*Capt. Robert J. Connelly, Commanding Officer*

*Lt. Cmdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer*

*JOC (SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer*

*JO1 (SW) Robert W. Garnand, Editor*

*JO3 Laura C. Wiggins, Staff Writer*

*Lt1 Jimmie Claspell, Print Shop*

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### \*TUESDAY'S STE TV SCHEDULE\*

#### CHANNEL 2

1030 DREW CAREY

1100 DANTES PEAK

1630 ER

1730 JEOPARDY

1800 BEVERLY HILLS 90210

1900 JUDGING AMY

2000 ASTRONAUT'S WIFE

2200 A PERFECT MURDER

#### CHANNEL 6

1030 SABRINA: TEENAGE WITCH

1100 HOME ALONE

1630 MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

1830 FORCES OF NATURE

2020 FUTURESPT

2200 THREE KINGS

TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
DUE TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### **TURKEY BEGINS UNWRAPPING ITS PAINFUL PAST**

*By Stephen Kinzer*

When a Turkish prosecutor announced recently that he wanted to indict Gen. Kenan Evren, who led the 1980 military coup, officials in Ankara were not amused. They quickly announced that the prosecutor had been placed in semiretirement, and then said he would be investigated for abusing his office.

It remains highly unlikely that Evren, now an 83-year-old retiree, will ever be called to account for his three unsuccessful coup attempts,

or for the one that succeeded in September 1980, or for the excesses committed in the three years of military rule that followed. But the fact that a prosecutor could even consider indicting him reflects a new climate in which the coup, along with other painful episodes in modern Turkish history, can be discussed more openly than ever before.

A new film, "Where the Rose Wilted," tells of an innocent man who is arrested after the coup and tortured by the police. Another film, "After the Fall," directed by Atif Yilmaz, tells the story of the coup through the eyes of a 5-year-old boy whose family is shattered by its effects. "What people like me are doing is trying to give this country back its memory," Yilmaz said.

The 1980 coup is not the only sensitive subject filmmakers are beginning to confront. One much-praised new film deals with the "wealth tax" that was imposed on Christian and Jewish Turks during the 1940s with the intention of bankrupting them or forcing them to emigrate. Another portrays Kurds as victims of discrimination and military repression.



### **Revolutionary Gator Of The Day**



Fire Controlman 3<sup>rd</sup> class  
Seth D. Marks

Combat Systems Department,  
CW Division

Hometown: Logansport, Indiana  
Qualifications: NATO Sea Sparrow  
Technician

On May 17, Petty Officer Marks' quick turnaround on troubleshooting a transmitter casualty to the forward NATO resulted in the weapon system's return to full operational readiness in less than 3 hours.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

**Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist**

HT2 (EOD/SW) Brian Franke

EW2 (SW) Dayton Swann

AC3 Dustin Blair

**Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist**

FC1 Michael Fleishman

MM1 Shawn Davis

MM1 Jeff Kulin

DC1 Steven Boyd





## Revolutionary Gator Of The Day



Hull Technician Fireman  
Christopher L. Pearce  
Engineering Department,  
Repair Division

Hometown: Smithfield, Ohio

Qualifications: Main Space Fire  
Fighting Team Member, Ship's Sounding  
and Security Rover, Ballasting Team  
Member and Pump Room Operator for the  
Waste Disposal Team

HTFN Pearce is responsible for manufacturing and repairing ship's structures; space renovations; sheet metal work; habitability repairs; piping repairs and trouble calls.

Pearce recently completed an acclimation/storage locker cage in the ship's print shop that will save that work center time in preparing paper for use. During his off-duty time he manu-

factured monitor brackets, removed old and installed new sanitary facilities in the ship's brig.

His accomplishments don't stop there. He's also assisted in the rebuilding of the Number One Comminutor (waste disposal grinder), saving the Navy thousands of dollars in contractor costs. He continues to ensure the completion of trouble calls within two to three hours after their receipt, which contributes significantly to crew morale.

Pearce has consistently demonstrated his work ethic and 'can do' attitude in all assignments. Fireman Pearce's dedication reflects greatly upon himself as a team player in the Engineering Department and on board USS BONHOMME RICHARD.

## TRICARE FAMILY MEMBER DENTAL PLAN RATE CHANGE

### MILITARY PAY ADVISORY 39/00

The Department of Defense, Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), TriCare Management Activity has made a change to the active duty TriCare-FMDP.

The rates for dental premiums will change effective with the July 2000 premium deductions (August 2000 coverage). The rate for single dependent enrollment will decrease from \$8.53 per month to \$7.88 per month and the rate for family enrollment will decrease from \$21.33 to \$19.70 per month.

Members who sign up for the plan on or after July 1, 2000, will be enrolled at the new rates. No transactions are required to effect the new rates for existing participants. DFAS will automatically adjust pay accounts to reflect the new premiums, which will appear on the July 2000 leave and earnings statements.

To assist in announcing the TriCare-FMDP rate decrease effective July 1, 2000, the following Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) remark will reflect on the May and June 2000 LES: "family member dental plan premiums will decrease in July 2000: single rate - \$7.88; family rate - \$19.70."